

HOMELESS VETERANS PROGRAMS

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the homeless programs and services administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs, after receiving testimony from Peter H. Dougherty, Director, Homeless Veterans Programs, Department of Veterans Affairs; Charles S. Ciccolella, Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans' Employ-

ment and Training; Philip F. Mangano, Executive Director, United States Interagency Council on Homelessness; Michael Blecker, Swords to Plowshares, San Francisco, California, on behalf of the National Coalition of Homeless Veterans; Alan Belcher, Transitional Living Services, Woodstock, Illinois; and Thomas R. Cantwell, Jr., Cloudbreak Development, LLC, Inglewood, California, on behalf of U.S. VETS.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 40 public bills, H.R. 4972–5011; 1 private bill, H.R. 5012; and 12 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 359–360, 362–364; and H. Res. 729–735, were introduced.

Pages H1127–30

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H1130–31

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 4709; to amend title 18, United States Code, to strengthen protections for law enforcement officers and the public by providing criminal penalties for the fraudulent acquisition or unauthorized disclosure of phone records (H. Rept. 109–395); Supplementary Report and Document Annex by the Select Bipartisan Committee to Investigate the Preparation for and Response to Hurricane Katrina (H. Rept. 109–396); and

H. Res. 685, requesting the President and directing the Secretary of State and Secretary of Defense provide to the House of Representatives certain documents in their possession relating to any entity with which the United States has contracted for public relations purposes concerning Iraq, adversely (H. Rept. 109–397).

Page H1127

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Miller of Michigan to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Page H1063

Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for Defense, the Global War on Terror, and Hurricane Recovery, 2006: The House passed H.R. 4939, to make emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, by a yeas-and-nays vote of 348 yeas to 71 nays, Roll No. 65. The bill was also considered yesterday, March 15.

Pages H1067–74, H1074–H1118

Rejected the Hinchey motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Appropriations with instructions to report the bill back to the House forthwith

with an amendment, by a recorded vote of 188 yeas to 233 noes, Roll No. 64.

Pages H1116–17

Yesterday it was agreed by unanimous consent to limit further amendments offered and the time for debate on such amendments.

Agreed to:

Burton of Indiana amendment that designates funding to Columbia to be used for illicit drug interdiction operations (by a recorded vote of 250 yeas to 172 noes, Roll No. 45), a recorded vote was requested on yesterday after debate and rolled until today;

Pages H1067–68

Capuano amendment that increases for peacekeeping and civilian protection in Darfur, Sudan (by a recorded vote of 213 yeas to 208 noes, Roll No. 46), a recorded vote was requested on yesterday after debate and rolled until today;

Page H1068

Taylor of Mississippi amendment that increases funding for the Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps account, and to increase funding for the Military Construction, Air Force account (by a recorded vote of 250 yeas to 171 noes, Roll No. 54), a recorded vote was requested on yesterday after debate and rolled until today;

Pages H1073–74

Jindal amendment that reduces and increases funding for VA offset from FEMA disaster relief;

Page H1084

Lee amendment that sought to prohibit the use of funds from being available to enter into a basing rights agreement between the United States and Iraq.

Pages H1107–10

Rejected:

Doggett amendment (No. 8 printed in the Congressional Record of March 14th) that sought to increase the funds for the Department of State Diplomatic and Consular Programs to be used to reinforce the federal levees on the Rio Grande (by a recorded vote of 198 yeas to 221 noes, Roll No. 47), a recorded vote was requested on yesterday after debate and rolled until today;

Pages H1068–69

Garrett amendment which sought to reduce the funding for Diplomatic and Consular Programs (by a recorded vote of 75 ayes to 344 noes, Roll No. 48), a recorded vote was requested on yesterday after debate and rolled until today; **Pages H1069–70**

Garrett amendment which sought to strike funding for Educational and Cultural Exchange Programs (by a recorded vote of 78 ayes to 343 noes, Roll No. 49), a recorded vote was requested on yesterday after debate and rolled until today; **Page H1070**

Foxx amendment which sought to strike the section relating to International Broadcasting Operations, which provides funding for Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (by a recorded vote of 88 ayes to 333 noes, Roll No. 50), a recorded vote was requested on yesterday after debate and rolled until today; **Pages H1070–71**

Melancon amendment which sought to increase funding for Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies (by a recorded vote of 199 ayes to 215 noes, Roll No. 51), a recorded vote was requested on yesterday after debate and rolled until today; **Pages H1071–72**

Jefferson amendment (No. 6 printed in the Congressional Record of March 14th) that sought to increase the funds for the Community Development Block Grant program. The amount appropriated by the bill for the Community Development Block Grant program is offset by reducing funding for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Disaster Relief Fund (by a recorded vote of 174 ayes to 248 noes, Roll No. 52), a recorded vote was requested on yesterday after debate and rolled until today; **Pages H1072–73**

Jefferson amendment (No. 7 printed in the Congressional Record of March 14th) that sought to add funding for Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), thereby increasing total CDBG dollars for the states affected by the hurricanes (by a recorded vote of 210 ayes to 212 noes, Roll No. 53), a recorded vote was requested on yesterday after debate and rolled until today; **Page H1073**

Gingrey amendment that sought to reduce funding for the National Historical Preservation Fund; **Page H1086**

Sabo amendment which sought to increase funding for homeland security (by a recorded vote of 208 ayes to 210 noes, Roll No. 56); **Pages H1076–79, H1094–95**

Neugebauer amendment (No. 12 printed in the Congressional Record of March 14th) that sought to eliminate all funding in Title II (by a recorded vote of 89 ayes to 332 noes, Roll No. 57); **Pages H1079–82, H1095–96**

Millender-McDonald amendment that sought to locate an additional amount for the Election Assistance Commission in the funding to remain available

until expended, for grants to eligible States, for restoring and replacing supplies, materials, and equipment used in the administration of elections in the States which were damaged as a result of Hurricane Katrina or Rita (by a recorded vote of 194 ayes to 227 noes, Roll No. 58); **Pages H1082–84, H1096**

Conaway amendment that sought to strike section 3010, relating to LIHEAP (by a recorded vote of 76 ayes to 342 noes, Roll No. 59); **Pages H1087–88, H1096–97**

Waxman amendment that sought to prohibit the awarding of contracts based on data from the Defense Contract Audit Agency (by a recorded vote of 193 ayes to 225 noes, Roll No. 60); **Pages H1101–04, H1110–11**

Velázquez amendment that sought to prohibit the use of funds from being made available to enforce deadlines regarding economic injury disaster loan applications and physical loan applications (by a recorded vote of 201 ayes to 213 noes, Roll No. 61); **Pages H1104–05, H1111–12**

Velázquez amendment that sought to prohibit the use of funds from being available to make or guarantee a loan under section 7(b) of the Small Business Act other than a loan for which the borrower is charged an interest rate in accordance with section 7(c)(5) (by a recorded vote of 200 ayes to 219 noes, Roll No. 62); and **Pages H1105–06, H1112**

Lee amendment that sought to prohibit the use of funds from being available to implement, administer, or enforce the termination of the hotel and motel emergency sheltering program established by FEMA for families displaced by Hurricane Katrina and other hurricanes of the 2005 season (by a recorded vote of 189 ayes to 230 noes, Roll No. 63). **Pages H1106–07, H1112–13**

Withdrawn:

Jindal amendment that was offered and subsequently withdrawn that sought to increase funding for reconstruction and major projects of the Department of Veterans Affairs for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricane Katrina; **Pages H1084–85**

Jindal amendment that was offered and subsequently withdrawn that sought to reduce funding under disaster relief and to increase funding for military construction projects of the Army National Guard; and **Pages H1085–86**

Kennedy amendment that was offered and subsequently withdrawn which sought to provide that none of the funds provided may be used to allow entry onto the grounds of any Department of Defense installation or cemetery or Department of Veterans Affairs cemetery for the purpose of a demonstration in connection with a funeral or memorial

service or ceremony for a deceased member of the Armed Forces. **Page H1089**

Point of Order sustained against:

Hall amendment (No. 22 printed in the Congressional Record of March 15th) that sought to provide child care subsidies to children of parents who are working or enrolled in workforce activities to States currently serving a significant number of children in families adversely affected by Hurricane Katrina, without putting the child care need of temporary residents ahead of families already on waiting lists for services funded by the Child Care and Development Fund; **Pages H1074–75**

Paul amendment (No. 9 printed in the Congressional Record of March 14th) that sought to provide funding in hurricane recovery assistance for Texas. The amendment divides the funding to provide funds for housing assistance under the Agriculture and Housing and Urban Development departments, funds for the costs of uncompensated health care for hurricane victims and evacuees, and other purposes; **Pages H1075–76**

Berry amendment that sought to provide an extension of enrollment periods for Medicare benefits; **Pages H1089–92**

DeLauro amendment that sought to repeal avian flu liability provisions (agreed to sustain the ruling of the chair by a recorded vote of 223 ayes to 193 noes, Roll No. 55); **Pages H1092–94**

Kaptur amendment (No. 26 printed in the Congressional Record of March 15th) that sought to investigate the awarding and carrying out of contracts to conduct military operations and relief and reconstruction activities related to the global war on terrorism (including all activities in Afghanistan and Iraq), and Hurricane Katrina recovery, relief, and reconstruction efforts; and **Pages H1098–99**

Nadler amendment (No. 10 printed in the Congressional Record of March 14th) that sought to insert a new section laying out requirements relating to entry of ocean shipping containers into the United States. **Pages H1099–H1101**

H. Res. 725, providing for consideration of the bill was agreed to yesterday, March 15th, by a recorded vote of 218 ayes to 200 noes, Roll No. 41, after agreeing to order the previous question by a yea-and-nay vote of 224 yeas to 192 nays, Roll No. 40.

Suspensions—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures which were debated on Wednesday, March 15th:

Making available funds included in the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program for fiscal year 2006: S.

2320, to make available funds included in the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program for fiscal year 2006, by a yea-and-nay vote of 287 yeas to 128 nays, Roll No. 66—clearing the measure for the President. **Pages H1118–19**

Tax Relief Act of 2005—Motion to Instruct Conferees: The House agreed to the Tanner motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 4297, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 201(b) of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2006, which was debated yesterday, March 15th, by a yea-and-nay vote of 222 yeas to 187 nays, Roll No. 67. **Page H1119**

Adjournment Resolution: The House agreed to H. Con. Res. 361, providing for the conditional adjournment of the House and the conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate. **Page H1120**

Meeting Hour: Agreed that when the House adjourn today, it adjourn to meet at noon on Monday, March 20, 2006, unless it sooner has received a message from the Senate transmitting its concurrence in H. Con. Res. 361, in which case the House shall stand adjourned pursuant to that concurrent resolution. **Page H1120**

Calendar Wednesday: Agreed by unanimous consent to dispense with the Calendar Wednesday business of Wednesday, March 29, 2006. **Page H1120**

Speaker Pro Tempore: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed the Honorable Robert B. Aderholt, the Honorable Michael K. Simpson, and the Honorable Wayne T. Gilchrest to act as Speaker Pro Tempore to sign enrolled bills and joint resolutions through March 28, 2006. **Page H1121**

Presidential Message: Read a message from the President wherein he notified the Congress of his transmitting a report prepared by his Administration on the National Security Strategy of the United States—referred to the Committee on Armed Services. **Page H1121**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes and twenty recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1067, H1068, H1068–69, H1069–70, H1070, H1071, H1071–72, H1072, H1073, H1073–74, H1094, H1094–95, H1095–96, H1096, H1096–97, H1110–11, H1111–12, H1112, H1113, H1117, H1117–18, H1118–19, and H1119. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and at 7:27 p.m. on Thursday, March 16, pursuant to the provisions of H. Con. Res. 361, the House stands adjourned until noon on Monday, March 20, 2006,

unless it sooner has received a message from the Senate transmitting its adoption of H. Con. Res. 361, in which case the House shall stand adjourned pursuant to that concurrent resolution until 2 p.m. on Tuesday, March 28th.

Committee Meetings

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BUDGET REQUEST FOR U.S. SOUTHERN COMMAND

Committee on Armed Services: Held a hearing on the Fiscal Year 2007 National Defense Authorization Budget Request for the U.S. Southern Command. Testimony was heard from GEN Bantz J. Craddock, USA, Commander, U.S. Southern Command, Department of Defense.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BUDGET REQUEST—SPACE ACTIVITIES

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Strategic Forces held a hearing on Fiscal Year 2007 National Defense Authorization Budget Request for space activities. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: Ronald M. Sega, Under Secretary; and LTG Frank G. Klotz, USAF, both with the Department of the Air Force; and Donald M. Kerr, Director, National Reconnaissance Office.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BUDGET REQUEST NAVY AND AIR FORCE ACQUISITION PROGRAMS

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces held a hearing on the Fiscal Year 2007 National Defense Authorization Budget Request for the Department of the Navy and the Department of the Air Force Aviation Acquisition Programs. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the GAO: Michael J. Sullivan, Director, Acquisition and Sourcing Management; and Michael J. Hazard, Assistant Director, Acquisition Sourcing Management Team; and the following officials of the Department of Defense: Kenneth J. Krieg, Under Secretary, Acquisition, Technology and Logistics; VADM Lewis W. Crenshaw, Jr., USN, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations, Resources, Requirements and Assessments; LTG John G. Castellaw, USMC, Deputy Commandant for Aviation, U.S. Marine Corps; and LTG Carrol H. Chandler, USAF, Deputy Chief of Staff, Air, Space and Information Operations, Plans and Requirements, U.S. Air Force.

KEY BUDGET PROCESS REFORMS

Committee on the Budget: Held a hearing on Key Budget Process Reforms. Testimony was heard from

former Senator Don Nickles of Oklahoma; and from the following former Representatives: William E. Frenzel of Minnesota and Charles W. Stenholm of Texas.

MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Workforce Protections held a hearing entitled "Mine Safety and Health: A Congressional Perspective." Testimony was heard from Representatives Capito, Murphy, Rahall, Davis of Alabama, Holt, Mollohan and Chandler.

ELECTRIC HEALTH RECORDS

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled "Legislative Proposals To Promote Electronic Health Records and a Smarter Health Information System." Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Financial Services: Ordered reported, as amended, the following bills: H.R. 3997, Financial Data Protection Act 2005; and H.R. 4973, Flood Insurance Reform and Modernization Act of 2006.

LEAVE NO COMPUTER SYSTEM BEHIND

Committee on Government Reform: Held a hearing entitled "Leave No Computer System Behind: A Review of the 2006 Federal Computer Security Scorecards." Testimony was heard from Gregory C. Wilshusen, Director, Information Security Issues, GAO; Karen S. Evans, Administrator, Office of E-Government and Information Technology, OMB; Thomas P. Hughes, Chief Information Officer, SSA; Thomas Wiesner, Deputy Chief Information Officer, Department of Labor; Robert F. Lentz, Director, Information Assurance, Department of Defense; and Scott Charbo, Chief Information Officer, Department of Homeland Security.

TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ADMINISTRATION REORGANIZATION ACT OF 2006

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Economic Security, Infrastructure Protection, and Cybersecurity approved for full Committee action, as amended, H.R. 4439, Transportation Security Administration Reorganization Act of 2005.

SAFE PORT ACT

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Economic Security, Infrastructure Protection, and Cybersecurity held a hearing on H.R. 4954, Security and Accountability for Every Port Act. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Homeland Security: Jayson Ahern, Assistant